

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A crystalline form of S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine maleate characterized by at least one of: absorption of less than one percent water by weight at 90% R.H. at 25 °C; melting point of 123 °C; aqueous solubility in excess of 230 mg ml<sup>-1</sup>; x-ray powder pattern substantially as shown in Fig. 6; x-ray powder pattern substantially as shown in Fig. 7; Raman spectrum substantially as shown in Fig. 13; and elemental analysis substantially as in Table 3.
2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the crystalline S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine maleate of claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
3. A method of treating a condition wherein pathologically high production forms a part in a subject in need of such treatment comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the crystalline S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine maleate of claim 1.
4. A method of decreasing nitric oxide production in a subject comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the crystalline S-[2-[(1-Iminoethyl)amino]ethyl]-2-methyl-L-cysteine maleate of claim 1.